

WASHINGTON.

GENERAL WASHINGTON DESPATCHES.

WASHINGTON, April 29, 1877.
THE NEW COLLECTOR OF THE PORT OF NEW ORLEANS.

Judge John E. King, appointed Collector of the Port of New Orleans, is represented to have been a Union man throughout the late war. He resided in the Opelousas country and was formerly of the Louisiana Supreme Court. General Sheridan wanted to appoint him Military Governor of Louisiana, to succeed Governor Wells, at the close of the late war, but he declined the office.

REGULATING MAIL CONTRACTS—HOW THE GOVERNMENT SERVICE IS MANAGED.

At the recent annual letting of the mail service by the Post Office Department a large number of contracts were awarded to persons commonly known as "speculating contractors," men who make a business of taking contracts and subletting or employing others to do the service at prices considerably below what is paid them by the department. Local bidders who fail to secure the service for themselves and the local press complain bitterly of this as an abuse, and often charge that these contractors are corruptly aided and abetted by persons in the Post Office Department. The Postmaster General is, however, powerless to prevent the state of things complained of. The law requires that "all contracts shall be awarded to the lowest bidder tending sufficient guarantee for faithful performance."

If contracts are awarded to speculators it is, as any one may learn by inspecting the records of the department, because they are the lowest responsible bidders, and their success in obtaining large numbers of contracts is easily explained without supposing them to be in collusion with officials in the department. They make mail contracting a business and reduce it to a system. They obtain from the books of the department, which are public records open to inspection, the amount paid for the service on each route. They calculate closely, and, expecting to obtain a large number of contracts, can afford to estimate for only a small profit on each route and thus succeed in underbidding local bidders who expect large margins of profit. Local bidders are thus driven to the service themselves and then make arrangements with the speculators to carry the mails for them at rates that leave the latter with their lower bid a margin of profit. If they would work for the department at the rates they accept from the speculators the latter would not be so successful in securing contracts.

NAVAL INTELLIGENCE.

EXAMINATIONS FOR PROMOTIONS—CADET ENGINEERS AT THE ACADEMY.

WASHINGTON, April 29, 1877.
The Naval Board to examine officers for promotion or promotion, which reassembled at the Navy Department on the 12th of April, have thus far examined Captains George M. Ransom and Wm. F. Spicer for promotion to the grade of Commodore; Commander Henry A. Adams to the grade of Captain; Commander Charles H. Cushman and Assistant Engineer Burchard for promotion to the grade of Lieutenant; and Lieutenants Cotton for promotion to the grade of Commander, and Keegan Wm. H. H. Southwick and J. M. Roper for promotion to the grade of Master. Several other officers have been ordered to appear before the Board for examination within the next two weeks.

CADET ENGINEERS.
The Secretary of the Navy has already received a number of applications from young men throughout the country for the position of cadet engineer at the Naval Academy. The law limits the number of such appointments to twenty-five each year, and it has been the practice to designate about one hundred applicants to appear for examination in September. The twenty-five passing the best examination being selected for appointment. The pay of a cadet engineer at the Naval Academy is \$1,000 per annum, and at sea the same as that of a midshipman (\$1,000 per annum). There are now seventy-one cadet engineers at the Academy, sixteen of whom are in the graduating class. Under the new regulations prescribing two years' service at sea before graduating, they will not graduate until 1880. Their academic course ends next year.

THE LEIGHT AT PORT ROYAL.
PORT ROYAL, April 29, 1877.
The United States monitor Lehigh, Lieutenant Hutchins commanding, arrived here from Savannah to-day.

MOODY AND SANKEY.

LABORS OF THE EVANGELISTS CLOSED IN BOSTON FOR THE PRESENT—A FINANCIAL FAILURE—FUTURE SERVICES IN THE TABERNACLE.

[BY TELEGRAPH TO THE HERALD.]
BOSTON, April 29, 1877.

The evangelists Moody and Sankey closed their work at the Tabernacle here to-day, at least for the present. The day was gloomy and wet, and the attendance was not as large as usual, though the evening meeting was fully up to the average audience.

SERMONS OF THE DAY.

The morning sermon was upon Christ's second coming and the afternoon and evening sermons upon God's ability to save and keep. The sermons were addressed to the young converts and were merely repetitions of the ones preached in New York at the closing services.

THE FINANCIAL RESULTS.

The leaders in the movement here are much disappointed at the result financially. The public did not subscribe as freely as had been anticipated, and the great bulk of the money raised has been in individual subscriptions of a large amount. Five or six dollars remains to be raised, and this will probably be done by subscription at future meetings.

SERVICES IN THE TABERNACLE.

The Tabernacle is to be open to-day, to be used for religious and temperance purposes. Gough lectures on Tuesday night, when an admission fee is charged, the funds to be used for the support of Miss Willard remain and will preach upon temperance Thursday night, in the Tabernacle, and afterward for a week in various churches. Mr. Sankey remains, and will sing the singing services, and Mr. Moody returns to work with the young converts. He announced to-day that he would return a week from Friday next. It is said that he would remain another month, as petitioned by the dry goods dealers, but that his sermons have not been preached here and he has talked himself into a fever. Joseph Cook will have the Tabernacle next Sunday night.

AN EXPECTED RETURN.

There is a possibility that Mr. Moody will return in the fall and finish his work here. It is known that he is not at all satisfied with the results of his work here, especially the work of districting the city, which has been almost total failure. Should sufficient money be raised to pay the ground rent for the next year it is the intention of the committee in charge of the revival to secure the services of Aiken, the great English Episcopalian revivalist, and Mr. Moody promises to assist him.

ANOTHER INSADE MAN.

Another man, whose name has appeared at one of the meetings and labors under the decision that a voice from heaven proclaimed him to be Christ. KIDNAPING A COLORED BABY.

Emma Seymour, a colored woman, called upon Mrs. Winter, another colored woman, residing at No. 17 Crosby street, yesterday, and took the latter's little girl out for a walk. She returned without the child, saying that she had given the child to another woman, who lived in a part of Mrs. Winter's house. Emma was arrested, but the child was not in the place. Last night Emma applied for lodging at the Fifth Street police station, and was arrested. She was taken to the station house on her arrest, identified as her own. Emma is a prisoner.

DARING BURGLARY.

The residence of William H. Thorpe, No. 232 Ewen street, was entered last evening by two burglars, who forced open the front door with a jimmy about half past eight o'clock. They stole about \$60 worth of clothing and despoiled the family meeting them only short resistance. The burglars were seen by the butler as they were coming home from church.

THE LEATHER WOMAN.

Jennie Curry, the lady who assaulted John Bennett with a cowhide in Saturday night while the latter was a coadjutor in the lecture, was arrested at the Essex Market Police Court yesterday evening before Judge Wandell, who held her in \$300 bail on a charge of assault.

FIFTY YEARS A SUNDAY SCHOOL.

The Sunday school connected with the old Bushwick Reformed Church celebrated its fiftieth anniversary last evening. The school children marched into the church to jubilate music, and, besides taking part in the exercises of the occasion, were addressed by Mr. Wm. Chapin, the first superintendent of the school; Mr. L. B. Taylor, one of the earliest scholars; Rev. J. West, D. D., and Rev. W. H. Powell, the present pastor of the church. Three generations of scholars in the school constituted the audience, and were deeply interested in the reminiscences related by the speakers.

LITERATURE.

THE ROYAL MASONIC CYCLOPEDIA OF HISTORY, RITUAL, SYMBOLS AND BIOGRAPHY. Edited by Kenneth R. Mackenzie, IX deg. Cryptic Master, Honorary member of the Grand Lodge of the Grand Lodge of Scotland. New York: J. W. Bouton.

Mr. Mackenzie's Masonic Cyclopædia is, without doubt, a most complete and practical volume, interesting alike to the Mason and the general reader, for its information covers a wide range and the compiler has been able to draw upon a number of disquisitions from the bare subject. There is little pertaining to Masonry that is not touched upon in this volume. A great many of the facts are new and have been dug out by patient labor, and whatever there is in the book that is old is treated in such a fresh style that it has the effect of being told for the first time. As the author says in his preface, many collateral matters have been introduced, being of interest to a right comprehension of the scope of Masonic science. While the craft, with all respect and affection, has received a willing tribute at the writer's hands, difficulties have been presented and an open, critical spirit allowed; and if certain legends have been treated with a free method of inquiry, it has always been essayed to perform the necessary labor with a due respect for the superior knowledge of special points possessed by experts in the various systems by which the spirit of Masonry has received expression. The writer shows thorough archaeological and historical research in the field of his labor, which has resulted in making a book which should be in the hands of every Mason.

IRISH WIT AND WISDOM. New York: P. M. Haverly.

Under the above title Mr. Haverly has issued a work that cannot fail to be interesting to our Irish fellow citizens. It is one of those volumes which combine the useful and the agreeable, being at once an amusing and a capital story book. The reading matter has been selected with excellent judgment, and, though preference is given throughout to entertaining stories and incidents, the more solid information has not been forgotten. Of special interest are the short historical sketches, both religious and political, which give a far better insight into the character of the Irish people than more lengthy or more profound dissertations could do. A person wholly unacquainted with the past history of Ireland reading this series of selections would, when laying down the book, possess a fair knowledge of that interesting country, and this quality should recommend it strongly to Irish-Americans desirous of obtaining intelligent ideas concerning the people from whom they have sprung. Stories of old wars are pleasantly relieved by the pleasant quips and the anecdotes of Swift. But it is in the account of the Irish Church, that the book is richest, and whoever takes an interest in the wondrous history of that Western Church will rejoice in the lamp of learning and boldness in Europe will find in the pages of "Irish Wit and Wisdom" instructive and delightful reading.

MISS NANCY'S PILGRIMAGE: A story of Travel. By Virginia W. Johnson. New York: Harper & Bros.

Miss Virginia W. Johnson is a young American lady who is still in her twenties, and who improves with every book she writes, so that by the time she reaches her thirties she will have done a good work for the novel-reading world. Miss Johnson has spent considerable time abroad, and the present volume is a result of her travels. We have no doubt that many of the adventures here related have been her own experience. We do not worry woman that she is, refers to Miss Johnson; we are not so unqualified as that. Miss Nancy Johnson, who is the ideal "school marm," is introduced to us as she stands in the bow of the steamer that bore her to a foreign land. The life on board the steamer is well described, and the wreck is depicted with a graphic pen. Miss Nancy in London, Paris, Rome, Monaco and other cities is an interesting sketch. One can readily imagine the feelings of Miss Nancy as the splendors of the Old World were opened up before her inexperienced eyes. There are two or three love stories running through the book, of which Miss Nancy's is not the least interesting.

BEAR LEON. By Alice Corrick. New York: Henry Holt & Co.

The past week has not been very prolific in important books, still the publishers' mills have ground out a number that are worth reading. Henry Holt & Co. have added a new story to their Leisure Hour series called "Bear Leon," and written by Alice Corrick. This author is new to us, and for that reason we are the more surprised at the excellence of her work. She has been most fortunate in being introduced in the charmed circles of the Leisure Hour series, where all of good wheat and where there are no husks. "Bear Leon" is a plain, unvarnished tale, and is very wise in its simplicity. A young man sprang from a hole in the wall, and he is a tall, hale old woman—clean as the elder blossoms that spread their whiteness in front of her windows. Her spare skirts are black, and over her chest a white linen kerchief is folded. Not a vestige of hair can be seen under the cap, the frill of which forms a frame to her face. * * * She is just a woman to be a mother of men, but she is childless. In the joyous benevolence, in the eager liberality of her nature, she is the typical mother—the right woman to be placed at the head of some order of sisters of mercy organizing and dispensing comfort. Here, at Carbeck, not a child is born that Mistress Martin has not helped into the world; she is nurse to every sick and dying bed, she has assisted at every baptism in the village. Dame Martin tells "Bill's story," which is the story of Beanie Lang to her young guest, who in turn tells it to the reader. The telling took place in the old dame's "kitchen, paneled with oak; a dark oak table, and a wealth of crockery on the shelves, a high-backed chair by the chimney corner. Dame Martin sat; her frilled cap shined out against the dark setting. Her spare figure, her thin, animated face seem to fit into the frame-work that in the fire light assumes a sombre, homely beauty. She talks in the broad soft dialect of Cumberland, flavored with Scotch inflections, and terms borrowed from the schoolmaster of long ago." So Dame Martin told the story of Beanie Lang. What it was, dear reader, you must read the book to learn, for we have no intention of depriving you of so agreeable a treat.

FROM TRADITIONAL TO RATIONAL FAITH; OR, THE WAY I CAME FROM BAPTIST TO LIBERAL CHRISTIANITY. By R. Andrew Griffin. Boston: Roberts Brothers.

We are left to infer, from the title of Mr. Griffin's book, that he does not consider that the old faith is rational, as opposed to the new. He says to his kind friends who have known him in the orthodox faith, "I go my way sorrowfully, without you. In this world no argument nor language available can perhaps convince you that God, Christ, atonement, faith, prayer and the inward life are as real and holy to me now as I labored among you. You cannot see this; nor could I have seen it a few years ago. Still I go my way—treading the same spiritual path you tread. The same eternal goodness guides us all, but we are separated, and walk on side by side, not knowing we are near; together in spirit, yet separated until death reunites us. Then hope bids me say—in a world of realities, a world free from artifice, bigotry, of imaginary duties, of enslavement to the literal and external—we shall meet again, and Christ will neither spurn nor me. After several chapters of "unrest," Mr. Griffin tells us how he at last found "true inwardness" in the Unitarian denomination.

LITERARY CHIT-CHAT.

G. P. Putnam's Sons will publish shortly "A History of Protection in the United States," by Professor W. G. Sumner. "Letters of Thomas Erskine, of Linlithgow," edited by William Hanna, D. D. Mr. Erskine was a liberal divine in the Church of Scotland. "Church Papers"—essays relating to the Church and Christian science, written from Geneva by that vigorous polemic, the Rev. Leonard W. Bacon. Later in the year they will have ready a new novel by Miss Warner, entitled "My Soldier," and a work by Dr. William A. Hammond on subject of some special novelty and interest—"The Influence of the Maternal Mind over the Offspring During Pregnancy and Lactation." Dr. Mary Putnam Jacobs's volume on "The Question of Rest in the Physiological Illustration of the labor of the physician." Dr. Putnam's Sons also announced as active preparation a series of sermons of representative Protestant preachers, to be issued under the general title of "Pulpit Teachings on Great Subjects."

The subject given for the first group of sermons is "The Nature and Work of Christ," and it will be made up of contributions from New York clergymen. The sermons will be printed separately in pamphlet form, and the first twelve will be published in the fall as a volume, under the title of "Witnesses of Christ."

The first discourse has been contributed by Dr. Howard Crosby, the second by Dr. H. W. Bellows, and early contributions have been arranged for from Drs. E. A. Washburne, E. H. Chapin, L. H. Bevan, J. D. Voss, W. P. Morgan, J. A. Anderson, Thomas Armitage and Mr. Chauncey Giles.

The extensive work of Mr. Lewis H. Morgan, on "Ancient Society," in which he traces the progress of man for what the author considers a hundred thousand years' existence from early barbarism to civilization.

Judge E. A. Thomas, of Wyoming, has in Claxton's Philadelphia press, a new novel entitled "At Swords' Points."

Mr. W. H. Whitmore, of Boston, has issued a pamphlet entitled "Unjust Taxes: a Criticism of the Massachusetts System of Local Taxation."

One of the most remarkable sales of a voluminous book was that of 20,000 copies of "Scherer's Exposition of the Novara," the German edition of which fills twenty-one volumes in quarto.

Mr. W. J. Stillman's book on Hergeogria wins the praise of Mr. Edward A. Freeman, in the London Academy, who calls Mr. Stillman a student of last resort, as well as an American Consul and a London Times correspondent.

Professor J. S. Blackie has written a controversial book on the language and literature of the Scottish Highlands.

Miss Martineau, at the first outbreak of her last long illness, was contributing six leaders a week to the London Daily News, though "sentenced to death" by two eminent physicians, as she wrote, from heart disease.

A new book on the courtesies of nations, salutations, dignities, &c., by that industrious compiler, William Tegg, will soon appear under the title of "Meetings and Greetings."

The most extensive Shakespeare bibliography yet gathered is that of Mr. Albert Cohn, the industrious German Shakespeare scholar, whose labor of twenty years will make a classified Shakespeare bibliography of 600 pages.

BUDDHISM.

WONG CHING FOO'S ARRIVAL IN THIS CITY—A BUDDHIST MISSIONARY—BUDDHISM AND CHRISTIANITY ALIKE IN ALL ESSENTIAL PARTS—HIS APPEARANCE AND HIS LIFE.

In the parlors of Mrs. Trautman, at No. 302 West Forty-seventh street, last evening, there gathered a small company of ladies and gentlemen who had been invited to meet with Wong Ching Foo, a Chinese of rank and education, and to hear his explanation of the principles of the Buddhist belief. It will be remembered that at the regular meeting of the Baptist ministers of this city on the 16th of April the question was debated as to whether adult heathen not having the advantages of baptism, ought to be admitted to church membership, and the question was decided in the affirmative. The object of Wong Ching Foo in coming before the public here is to contend that the followers of the Buddhist religion are not heathen in any sense of the word.

Wong Ching Foo is twenty-six years of age, and a little taller, perhaps, than the average height of Chinese. His dress is in strict conformity with the customs of his country, and exhibits that taste and refinement that marks the Chinese upper classes. His manner is refined and courteous and exceedingly pleasing, especially in conversation. His knowledge of the English language enables him to converse with fluency and ease, and even in the most rapid utterances there is a musical cadence to his voice that is both marked and pleasing. He is introduced to us as he stands in the bow of the steamer that bore her to a foreign land. The life on board the steamer is well described, and the wreck is depicted with a graphic pen. Miss Nancy in London, Paris, Rome, Monaco and other cities is an interesting sketch. One can readily imagine the feelings of Miss Nancy as the splendors of the Old World were opened up before her inexperienced eyes. There are two or three love stories running through the book, of which Miss Nancy's is not the least interesting.

Although but twenty-six years of age, his life and past, for the past few years of his life, has been one of strange vicissitudes. His father occupied a position of trust in the Chinese Imperial Army, and sent Wong Ching Foo to the United States, where he was to be educated. He was a native of China, a year later, was made an interpreter at the Imperial court. Being strong in favor with the Emperor he was promoted to be a high official, and a member of the Imperial household. Upon the accession of the present Emperor his duty he became involved in a conspiracy, and was obliged to flee to America. He was obliged to seek safety in flight. After months of hiding and dangerous situations, which he very graphically tells, he escaped to this country, where he has been engaged in a change of life.

CATHOLIC YOUNG MEN'S NATIONAL CONVENTION.

The third annual convention of the Catholic Young Men's National Union, which will be held in this city on Wednesday, May 30, prox., at De La Salle Institute, Nos. 48 and 50 Second avenue. The exercises will commence at ten A. M. The New York Union, of which Rev. Edward T. McElroy is president and William Connolly and Patrick Gleason secretaries, has issued an address to its confederates throughout the United States. In that address the Union says the growth of the Catholic Church in this country has been truly wonderful, but its continued existence and advancement must depend in a great measure, the Union thinks, upon the loyalty of the young men. The Church, they say, is the only power that can save the country, and to provide against misrepresentation they think organized effort is necessary. They therefore urge the formation of societies of Catholic young men, who are to be the backbone of the Church, and the strengthening of those that do exist. There are several such societies in the United States which are not affiliated in the National Union, and they are urged to join it. The requirements for membership are the certificate of the Bishop or pastor of any church or parish, which shall be sent to the National Union, and the strengthening of those that do exist. There are several such societies in the United States which are not affiliated in the National Union, and they are urged to join it. The requirements for membership are the certificate of the Bishop or pastor of any church or parish, which shall be sent to the National Union, and the strengthening of those that do exist. There are several such societies in the United States which are not affiliated in the National Union, and they are urged to join it. The requirements for membership are the certificate of the Bishop or pastor of any church or parish, which shall be sent to the National Union, and the strengthening of those that do exist. 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